

## CLAIMS

2 What is claimed is:

4 *Sub a 17* 1. An apparatus for packaging goods in a box, comprising:  
6 (a) a box erecting apparatus for erecting a box to receive at least one  
8 good; and  
10 (b) an elevator lift apparatus operatively connected below the box  
12 erecting apparatus, such that the elevator lift apparatus is positioned to lift at least one  
14 good into the erected box.

16 2. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the box is an open-bottomed box.

18 3. The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the box is a cardboard box.

20 4. The apparatus of claim 2, further comprising a finishing apparatus for  
22 sealing the open-bottomed box, wherein the finishing apparatus is operatively  
24 connected to the box erecting apparatus.

26 5. The apparatus of claim 4, further comprising a magazine for storing  
28 open-bottomed boxes adapted to be erected by the box erecting apparatus.

30 6. The apparatus of claim 5, further comprising a labeling apparatus  
32 operatively connected to the finishing apparatus.

34 7. The apparatus of claim 6, further comprising a first conveyor defining  
36 a first conveyor plane positioned to deliver goods to the elevator lift apparatus.

38 8. The apparatus of claim 7, further comprising a second conveyor  
40 defining a second conveyor plane positioned to transport the goods through the  
42 finishing and labeling apparatuses.

44 9. The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the box erecting apparatus  
46 comprises at least one suction cup.

10. An apparatus for packaging goods in an open-bottomed container, the  
2 apparatus comprising:

4 (a) an elevator lift apparatus for lifting at least one good through a  
4 bottom of the open-bottomed container; and  
6 (b) a support mechanism operatively connected to the elevator lift  
6 apparatus for supporting the at least one good in the open-bottomed container.

11. The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the support mechanism further acts  
8 as a guide mechanism to funnel the goods into the open-bottomed container.

12. The apparatus of claim 10, further comprising a box erector apparatus  
10 to erect an open-bottomed container.

13. The apparatus of claim 12, further comprising:  
12 (a) a closing mechanism operatively attached to the elevator lift  
apparatus for closing a top portion of the open-bottomed container; and  
14 (b) a finishing apparatus operatively attached to the closing  
mechanism for sealing a top portion of the open-bottomed container.

16. The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the support mechanism for the box  
comprises a first and second support mechanism.

18. The apparatus of claim 14, further comprising a first conveyer,  
operatively connected to the elevator lift apparatus, the first conveyer having a  
20 starting end and a finishing end.

16. The apparatus of claim 15, further comprising a second conveyer  
22 situated at the finishing end of the first conveyor, the second conveyor positioned on a  
second conveyer plane.

24. The apparatus of claim 16, the first conveyer belt further comprising a

left belt and a right belt, the left belt and the right belt defining an open space.

2        18.      The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the elevator lift apparatus is  
3                    operatively connected in the open space of the first conveyor at the finishing end, the  
4                    elevator lift apparatus having a first position on a plane just lower than the first  
5                    conveyer plane and having a second position situated generally level with the second  
6                    conveyer plane.

7        19.      The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the second conveyer plane is on a  
8                    higher level than the first conveyer plane.

9        20.      The apparatus of claim 19, further comprising a stopping block  
10                  situated at the finishing end of the first conveyer adapted to stop the goods over the  
11                  elevator lift apparatus.

12        21.      The apparatus of claim 20, further comprising a pushing mechanism  
13                  operatively connected to the first conveyer for pushing the open-bottomed container  
14                  off of the supporting mechanism onto the second conveyer.

15        22.      The apparatus of claim 21, further comprising a labeling apparatus  
16                  operatively connected to the second conveyor.

17        23.      The apparatus of claim 22, further comprising a guide mechanism  
18                  operatively connected to the elevator lift apparatus for guiding the goods into the  
19                  unfolded open-bottomed container.

20        24.      The apparatus of claim 10, the apparatus further comprising a meter  
21                  mechanism operatively connected to the elevator lift apparatus situated to count the  
22                  goods moving from the starting end to the finishing end.

23        25.      The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the open-bottomed container is a  
24                  cardboard box.

26. The apparatus of claim 24, further comprising a cardboard box  
4 magazine for storing multiple boxes accessibly positioned to the box erecting  
apparatus, the box having a first and second minor flap and a first and second major  
6 flap.

27. The apparatus of claim 26, further comprising:  
8 (a) a first flap folding mechanism operatively attached to the first  
conveyor at the finishing end adapted to fold the first and second minor flaps of the  
10 open-bottomed container; and  
(b) a second flap folding mechanism operatively attached to the  
12 conveyer for folding the first and second major flaps of the open-bottomed container.

28. A method of packaging goods in a box, the method comprising:  
14 (a) actuating an elevator lift apparatus to raise the goods into the  
box; and  
16 (b) supporting the goods in the box after the elevator lift apparatus  
is lowered.

18 29. The method of claim 28, further comprising closing a top portion of  
the box.

20 30. The method of claim 28, further comprising:  
(a) providing the goods to be packaged;  
22 (b) placing the goods on an first conveyor; and  
(c) moving the goods with a first conveyor to a position over the  
24 top of the elevator lift apparatus.

31. The method of claim 28, further comprising counting the goods to  
2 confirm the appropriate number.

32. The method of claim 28, wherein the box is an open-bottomed  
4 cardboard box.

33. The method of claim 30, further comprising sealing a top portion of the  
6 box.

34. The method of claim 33, further comprising:

8 (a) stacking the sealed boxes enclosing the goods onto a palette; and  
10 (b) packaging the stacked open-bottomed containers on the palette.

10 *Sujo a 27/35*  
12 A method for packaging goods in an open-bottomed container, wherein  
the open-bottomed container is an open-bottomed cardboard box with four upper  
flaps, comprising:

14 (a) unfolding the open-bottomed cardboard box;  
16 (b) holding the unfolded open-bottomed cardboard box above the  
elevator lift apparatus;  
18 (c) activating an elevator lift apparatus to raise the goods into the  
open-bottomed cardboard box; and  
(d) folding the four upper flaps of the open-bottomed cardboard  
box.

20 36. The method of claim 35, further comprising providing multiple the  
open-bottomed containers by a flat folded cardboard open-bottomed container  
22 dispensing apparatus.

37. A method for delivering goods comprising transporting goods  
2 packaged in open-bottomed containers on a palette whereby the goods may be  
accessed by lifting the open-bottomed container.

*and  
C3*

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